

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 EB-11 OMB-01

DRC-01 /160 W

----- 004307

R 151615Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1847

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12601

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP NATO IT

SUBJECT: BURDEN SHARING

1. DURING NOVEMBER 14 CALL AT FOREIGN OFFICE, EMBOFF ASKED NATO OFFICE CHIEF (DA RIN) ABOUT STATUS OF EUROGROUP BURDEN SHARING ACTIVITIES. DA RIN REPLIED THAT ATTENTION OF EUROPEANS HAD HERETOFORE BEEN FOCUSED ON ARITHMETIC EXERCISE GOING ON IN BRUSSELS REGARDING RESPECTIVE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATIONS, CITING US-ITALIAN DISAGREEMENT ON PROPRIETY OF INCLUDING COMMERCIAL MILITARY TRANSACTIONS AS ONE EXAMPLE. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE DEPLORED THE FACT THAT THIS HAGGLING HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO GO ON SO LONG WITHOUT ANY AGREEMENT ON THE FIGURES YET IN SIGHT. DA RIN SAID THE TIME HAS COME TO PUT THE BALANCE SHEETS ASIDE AND BRING INTO PLAY THE NECESSARY POLITICAL WILL.

2. HE NOTED THAT THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD JUST THAT DAY  
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RECOMMENDED TO DEFENSE MINISTER TANASSI (CURRENT EUROGROUP

CHAIRMAN) THAT HE PUT THE ISSUE SQUARELY TO OTHER CONCERNED EUROGROUP MEMBERS URGING THEM TO IGNORE THE STATISTICS AND MAKE AN AFFIRMATIVE POLITICAL DECISION TO FORMULATE SOME TYPE OF EUROGROUP BURDEN SHARING PACKAGE AT THE DECEMBER 5 MEETING IN BRUSSELS. DA RIN ADDED THE SUCCESS OF THIS EFFORT DEPENDED ON GERMAN AND BRITISH RESPONSES. HE EXPRESSED UNCERTAINTY AS THWAT THEY WOULD BE. IF THE EFFORT DID PROVE FRUITFUL, THE PLAN WOULD BE TO FRAME THE BROAD OUTLINES OF A PACKAGE AT THE DECEMBER 5 MEETING AND DISCUSS IT WITH THE U.S. AT THE DECEMBER 6-7 DPC MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S COMMENT THAT, EVEN WITH FORTHCOMING BRITISH AND GERMAN RESPONSES, IT DID NOT APPEAR THAT THE EUROGROUP WAS MOVING FAST ENOUGH TO HAVE MUCH IN THE WAY OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO DISCUSS WITH US AT THE DPC MEETING, DA RIN ACKNOWLEDGED THIS TO BE THE CASE BUT EMPHASIZED THAT AFFIRMATIVE POLITICAL DECISIONS WOULD BE A MAJOR STEP FORWARD AND THAT THE DETAILS OF A PROGRAM COULD BE WORKED OUT AFTER THE DECEMBER MEETINGS. EMBOFF REVIEWED ONCE AGAIN THE TIME PRESSURES ENGENDERED BY THE JACKSON NUNN AMENDMENT AND URGED A FASTER EUROGROUP PACE. DA RIN DISPUTED NONE OF THIS AND PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BURDEN SHARING  
**TAGS:** MCAP, IT, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005